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SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—" அந்தக் கடனை கம்பெனியிடமிருந்து வசூல் செய்வதற்கு அதனிடம் பெறுமானமுள்ள சொத்து இருக்கிறதா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" அதைத்தான் தமிழிலேயே நான் சொன்னேன். மானேஜிங் ஏஜெண்டுகள் உத்தரவாதம் கொடுத்திருக்கிறார்கள். அதனால் அந்தத் தொகையை வசூல் செய்துவிடலாமென்று சொன்னேன்."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" May I know how many silicate industries are there in our State and whether Silicate Industry is an established industry? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice."

Co-operative House Building Societies

* 1103 *Q*.—SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the various Co-operative House Building Societies in the State; and

(*b*) the total amount of loan sanctioned up to 1954 by Government to these societies?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) As on 30th June 1954 there were 170 Co-operative Housing Societies in the State. A list of these societies is not readily available.

" (*b*) During the year 1953–54 an amount of Rs. 53·58 lakhs has been sanctioned as loans. Separate figures regarding loan sanctioned to these societies before 1953–54 in the Composite Madras State are not available."

Attappady-Chinnathadagam road

* 1104 *Q*.—SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to the answer to question No. 861, given on 17th May 1954—

(*a*) whether the estimate for the construction of Attappady-Chinnathadagam road has been prepared and sanctioned; and

(*b*) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A detailed estimate has been prepared and the work will be taken up for execution after the Government of India approve the estimate."

Special Industrial Tribunal for Estate workers

* 1105 *Q*.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether an Industrial Tribunal was constituted to enquire into the condition of the estate workers in the State;

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(*b*) if so, when; and

(*c*) in how many places the Tribunal conducted enquiry and the section of the estate workers covered by the enquiry?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir. The Government have, however, constituted a Special Industrial Tribunal to adjudicate on disputes relating to the fixation of wages, dearness allowance, etc., of the workers and staff employed in the plantations in the Nilgiris, Coimbatore, Salem, Malabar, Madurai and Tirunelveli districts.

" (*b*) The Special Industrial Tribunal was constituted on 24th March 1952.

" (*c*) The Special Industrial Tribunal held its sittings at ten places between 1st February and 22nd December 1954 and visited 48 estates between 7th June and 6th December 1954. Both the workers and the staff are parties to the dispute."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" இந்த 'ஸ்பெஷல் ட்ரிபியூனல்' 1952-ம் வருஷத்திலேயே நிறுவப்பட்டது. கிட்டத்தட்ட இரண்டு வருஷத்துக்கு மேலாகியும் விசாரணை முடியவில்லை. அதற்கு என்ன காரணம்? விசாரணை முடிவு அடைய இன்னும் எவ்வளவு காலமாகும்?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" இந்த விசாரணை முடிவதற்கு காலதாமதம் ஆவதைப் பற்றி எனக்கே கவலையாகயிருக்கிறது என்று முன்பேயே ஒரு முறை நான் சொல்லியிருக்கிறேன். 'ட்ரிப்யூனலுக்கு' இதை அனுப்பித்த பிறகு, விசாரணையை அவர்கள் சீக்கிரமாக முடிக்க வேண்டுமென்று உத்தரவு போட்டுத் தலையிடுவது முறையல்ல என்பதைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொள்கிறேன். இப்பொழுது வேறு ஒரு அதிகாரியைப் புதியதாகப் போட்டிருக்கிறோம். ஏற்கெனவே இருந்தவரின் பதவி காலம் முடிவடைந்து விட்டது. கனம் அங்கத்தினர் அஞ்சுவது போல், வருஷக்கணக்கில் காலதாமதமாகாமல் விசாரணை சீக்கிரத்திலேயே முடியுமென்று நான் எதிர்பார்க்கிறேன்."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" புதியதாக ஒரு 'ட்ரிப்யூனல்' ஏற்படுத்தியிருப்பதாகக் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். ஏற்கெனவே இருந்தவர் போய் விட்டதால், இந்தப் புது 'ட்ரிப்யூனல்' அளிக்கும் தீர்ப்புச் செல்லுமா என்ற சட்ட நுணுக்கங்கள் பரிசீலிக்கப்பட்டதா? அதற்குப் பரிகாரம் தேடப்பட்டதா?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" சட்ட நுணுக்கங்களைப் பற்றி வேறு திறமை வாய்ந்த, அக்கறையுள்ள வக்கீல்கள் கிளப்புவதற்கு முன்பு கனம் அங்கத்தினர் கிளப்ப வேண்டாமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன்."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" I am not very much interested in that. What I am thinking is this. The whole Bank Award was vitiated on account of the death of one Member of the Bank Tribunal and consequently the proceedings of the Bank Tribunal had been delayed for over a period of seven years. I do not want that a similar thing should be repeated here. That is why, I want to know whether the Government have examined the legal position in the matter and have taken steps to see that the proceedings of the Special Industrial Tribunal are not vitiated on account of the transfer of any Member of the Tribunal? "

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The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government have looked into the matter and they are now satisfied that there will be no difficulty like the one apprehended by the hon. Member."

* Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether it is a fact that the Tribunal has recommended the wages of the workers on a temporary basis and whether these recommendations have been carried out by the estate owners? As far as I know of conditions in the district of Malabar, these recommendations have not been implemented fully. May I request the Hon. the Minister for Labour to enquire into the matter and see that these recommendations are implemented by estate owners? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The managements of the estates are no doubt bound to carry out these interim awards. If there are any specific cases of non-implementation, I would suggest to the hon. Member to bring such instances to my notice."

Sri V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Is the Hon. Minister aware that housing and living conditions of these labourers are much below the standard set for the workers by the International Organisation for the whole world? And will the Hon. Minister kindly include the survey of these conditions also by the present Tribunal? " 8-50 a.m.

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" It is a very comprehensive enquiry that has been undertaken by this Tribunal, Sir."

Skimmed milk powder from foreign countries

* 1106 Q.—Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan): Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) the quantity of skimmed milk powder accepted till now by the Madras Government for free distribution from the UNICEF and United States of America; and

(b) whether any skimmed milk powder was accepted during the years 1953 and 1954?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—(a) 4,362,500 lb., Sir.

" (b) Yes, Sir. 1,700,000 lb., and 750,000 lb. respectively during 1953 and 1954."

Sri V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" Sir, may I know whether skimmed milk powder is distributed only in particular areas or in all areas of the State? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" It is distributed throughout the State, Sir, through Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, through elementary schools, and through hospitals and orphanages, etc."